

Message Text

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44

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AID-01 RSC-01 SS-07 AF-04 NSC-06 ISO-00 /023 W

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R 111650Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4586

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 3684

CODEL POAGE

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (POAGE, W.R.)

SUBJ: CODEL POAGE/DE LA GARZA

REF: YAOUNDE 3650

1. SUMMARY. CODEL VISIT WENT SMOOTHLY AND SATISFACTORILY DESPITE HECTIC AMBIANCE CREATED BY EXTREME BREVITY. VISITORS OBTAINED BRIEFING ON AND ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION OF CAMEROON'S AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AND EFFORTS, AND GOT A HASTY LOOK AT DOWNTOWN YAOUNDE.

2. CODEL ARRIVED FROM LIBREVILLE ABOUT ON TIME NOVEMBER 9 (1450 LOCAL CF. PLANNED 1435). GREETED AT AIRPORT BY SENIOR AVAILABLE OFFICIAL OF AGRICULTURE MINISTRY, TECHNICAL ADVISER ROBERT BURNLEY. (MINISTER WAS IN ROME AT WFC, VICE MINISTER TIED UP IN MEETING AT PRESIDENCY.) GREETED ALSO BY FONMIN PROTOCOL OFFICER, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND KEY STAFF MEMBERS. DEPARTED QUICKLY FOR AGRICULTURE MINISTRY CONFERENCE ROOM, WHERE MEETING BEGAN AT 1510. BRIEFING WAS BY THREE ANGLOPHONES --- BURNLEY, DIRECTOR OF COOPERATIVES SIMON SHANG, AND DIRECTOR
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OF VETERINARY SERVICES (MINISTRY OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY) DR. J.N.

SONGWE ON GENERAL AGRICULTURAL POLICY, LIVESTOCK AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS. SEVERAL OTHER OFFICIAL SPRESENT. BRIEFINGS QUITE EFFECTIVE, CONSIDERING SHORTNESS OF TIME, AND THERE WAS ALSO OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION. CAMEROONIANS PAID TRIBUTE TO PAST USAID HELP IN VERY SUCCESSFUL POULTRY PROJECT IN MUYUKA (SOUTHWEST PROVINCE) AND PROMISING CURRENT EFFORT TO INCREASE MILK PRODUCTION WITH HEIFERS RECENTLY OBTAINED FROM HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL (LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS). SESSION HAD TO BE ENDED AT 1555 TO PERMIT CODEL HASTY LOOK AT DOWNTOWN YAOUNDE AND VISIT MARKET PRIOR TO RETURN TO AIRPORT TO EMPLANE AT 1620. WHEELS UP ONLY 10 MINUTES LATE -- AT 1640 -- FOR KANO.

3. PAO POUCHING PHOTOGRAPHS TO USIA AS PER HANDBOOK FOR CONGRESSIONAL FOREIGN TRAVEL.

4. COMMENT:

(A) CODEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH VISIT WHICH GAVE USEFUL LOOK AT CAMEROON TO SUPPLEMENT PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING MATERIAL WHICH REPRESENTATIVE DE LA GARZA DESCRIBED AS VERY THOROUGH AND EXCELLENT. ALL CONCERNED WOULD HAVE PREFERRED, OF COURSE, THAT EXPOSURE HERE COULD HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT LONGER AND MORE PROFOUND.

(B) DESPITE SHORT NOTICE OF VISIT (WHICH WAS "NOTICE" AND NOT REQUEST WHETHER GURC WISHED HAVE SUCH VISIT), BREVITY AND TIMING (ABSENCE OF KEY PEOPLE -- BURNLEY HIMSELF WAS CALLED BACK FROM CAMEROON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD MEETING IN VICTORIA -- AND INTRUSION ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON). GURC DID WELL IN CHEERFULLY SETTLING UP USEFUL SESSION WITH TOP OFFICIALS AVAILABLE. SEVERAL KEY OFFICIALS IN FONMIN DID, HOWEVER, EXPRESS CONCERN THAT SUCH LIMITED EXPOSURE DID NOT PERMIT CAMEROON TO SHOW ITSELF ADEQUATELY OR REPRESENTATIVELY.
MOORE

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